

SPRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

GRANT'S NEUTRALITY HUMBLED.

From the N. Y. World. "The promptness and energy with which the administration has acted towards the Cuban rebellion cannot be too highly commended. All the more praise is due because the duty was in some respects ungracious, if not actually unpopular."

Whether the movement towards the fundamental repeal of our neutral code which was proposed in the lower house of Congress, some two years ago, by Mr. Banks, the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, passed that body by a unanimous vote, and which was only defeated in the Senate, amid the confusion of the closing hours of the session, by the persistence of Senator Sumner in demanding that it be referred under the rules to an appropriate committee for consideration, was conducive to the future national welfare of the United States, we do not propose now to discuss.

It is sufficient for our present purposes that the enactment is now upon the statute-book, and one of the laws which General Grant, not four months ago, made oath that he would take care was faithfully executed. Has he kept his oath?

The neutrality law makes it the duty of the President to secure the punishment of every citizen of the United States who accepts and exercises a commission to serve Céspedes in war against Spain; who hires or enlists in the United States a soldier to serve under Céspedes; who enlists himself to this service; or who begins, sets on foot, or provides the means of any military expedition or enterprise against Spain. Has Grant executed this law with "promptness and energy"?

The eighth section requires the President, when he has reason to believe any such enterprise or expedition exists in the United States, to employ, if need be, the land or naval forces, or militia, to prevent their departure. He is clothed by Congress with every required power to arrest and detain the expedition which his subordinates well know has been in notorious existence in this city for two weeks. Has he exercised the power thus given? The news reports of the Times during the period the expedition has been aggregated and organized in Broadway, Houston street, and other localities in the neighborhood, furnish a sufficient answer.

The Washington correspondents of the Times informed the public at the time that Grant refused the application of the Spanish Minister for the issue of a proclamation, similar to those issued on similar occasions from the days of Washington, warning our people not to take part in the insurrection. Why was this?

Did it come from the commitments, made by Grant previous to his inauguration, in respect to a combination by which a resolution in favor of the insurgents was to be rushed through Congress by General Banks, and which actually got through the lower house?

Either there was no occasion for the proclamation of warning made by his predecessors in office—Polk, Fillmore, and Pierce—in respect to Mexico, Cuba, and Nicaragua, or else Grant was backward in his duty when he refused the application of the Spanish Government.

And yet the Times says:—"We are proud to say that our Government did not suffer itself to be tempted for an instant. It was enough for it that it was bound by its own neutrality law and by the general law of nations to take no active part in the conflict, and to deny its people from any such part. It would connive at nothing, sought no excuses for delay, practised no shifts or subterfuges—went straight to its duty, and did it effectually. It kept the national faith perfectly, and to-day that faith stands bright and clear before the world, not only above reproach, but above suspicion. Such adherence to strict duty is refreshing. It carries us back to the earlier and better days of the republic. It is just such conduct as Washington and Madison observed in similar circumstances towards other nations, which gave us, while yet in the straits, matchless honor throughout the world."

Will that journal inform us of a single enterprise or expedition in favor of Céspedes and against Spain which the administration has effectually prevented?

Has it not, as a Government, sold arms and munitions of war, knowing they were for Céspedes, in violation of the duties of neutrality announced in Mr. Sumner's speech, which, as the Times published a day or two since, Grant approves?

Will the Times produce a single order from Washington, presumed to have the endorsement of Grant, which has directed the prompt and energetic prevention of the expedition under Ryan?

It is notorious that the orders or instructions from Washington relating to the enforcement of our neutrality laws were, up to the arrest of the Junta, confined to the detention of the Quaker City; and the Times has again and again said that the incitement of Lemus and his associates before the Grand Jury and their subsequent arrest were promoted by the Spanish Consul in this city. The Grand Jury ordered bills of indictment without and independently of any influences from Washington. In fact, it was everywhere known the day after the arrest of the Junta that neither Grant nor his Secretaries were aware that the movement was on foot. District Attorney Pierpont, when in court, on the question of allowing the Junta to give bail, carefully excluded the idea that he had any instructions from Washington, direct or indirect. He acted judiciously under the statute and on his own responsibility.

Why is it that the indictment and arrest of the members of the Junta and their prominent military agents in this city, together with requiring them to give bail not to violate the neutrality laws a second time, produced no restraining influences on the operations of the efficient managing persons, and the business went on just as before? Simply because they felt Grant was on their side, and would continue officially to shut his eyes, and the eyes of all his Secretaries, to their conduct?

Whatever has been done thus far, within our knowledge, to enforce the law, has been done outside of Grant's direct intervention; and whenever that direct intervention has been needed, as in the matter of arresting and detaining the recruits of Ryan, which have been marching and countermarching across the North river, disturbing the peace of the community, nothing has been done. A few of the Marshal's officers, in fear of being served as was one of their number in the Houston street Casino, have, to be sure, been following these recruits about, but as powerless to arrest or detain as they are to stop the course of the Hudson with a broom.

Take the case of the steamer Perit, which everybody now admits acted in violation of law when it provided the means of conveying an expedition to Cuba. That vessel now lies in this port, and her owners and her charterers are here. Has Grant given any orders to bring them within the penalties of violated law? The truth and fact are that, excepting what the Spanish Consul has done through the machinery of the courts of justice, which are open to him, independently of the aid of

the administration, on presenting sufficient evidence, there has been no prompt and energetic enforcement of the neutrality laws. It is through the Executive power alone, as conferred by the eighth section of the law of 1818, that neutrality as to Spain can be effectually enforced, and such power Grant will not exercise. What has been done through the courts is just enough to annoy persons and put them to expense; but owing to the inertness of the President, no public good is accomplished.

To attempt to compare Grant's conduct with that of Washington in 1793—in which latter case the whole inspiration and action came from within our own Government, and not from without, in the person of a foreign minister and his counsel, as is now the case—is absurd. An expedition in 1793, fitted out by Genet, like the Ryan expedition fitted out by the Junta, would not have been free from order of arrest in this city one hour after its existence came to the knowledge of Washington.

And yet it was President Grant who, in his inaugural, said:—"In regard to foreign policy, I would deal with nations as equitable law requires individuals to deal with each other. * * * I would respect the rights of all nations, demanding equal respect for our own."

It was President Grant who began his civil career by saying:—"It will be my endeavor to execute all laws in good faith; who even said:—"But all laws will be faithfully executed, whether they meet my approval or not. I know no method to secure the repeal of bad or obnoxious laws so effective as their stringent execution."

REVOLUTION OF LABOR IN FRANCE.

From the N. Y. Times.

The riots succeeding the French elections are evidently arousing some fear throughout Europe. A majority for the government of 800,000 out of 8,000,000 votes is certainly not encouraging to the Imperialists. To find, moreover, that the extreme candidates do better than the medium party, and that the people care as little for constitutional monarchists as they do for the advocates of the empire, is a fact decidedly unpleasant for the great bourgeoisie and for the commercial classes. But more than this, that all the great cities should have witnessed serious disturbances between the citizens and soldiers, and that even barricades have been thrown up in Paris, and everywhere the soldiers have shown the greatest forbearance, are all evidences that the empire feels itself, and for the time is, on an unstable basis. The anxiety of Europe, however, is due to a more profound cause even than the dread of a political revolution in France. There are symptoms in this election which foreshadow changes more momentous than the overthrow of dynasties. The Nation of this city, in a recent remarkable letter from Paris, written by an authority on French matters, expressed what the European press are beginning now to see, that the lesson of these late elections is a social rather than political one; that this new movement against the empire is, in fact, the first stirring of that grand upheaval of labor which is before long to shake every social structure throughout the civilized world. The French *ouvriers* are penetrated with the ideas which Lasalle has represented in Germany, and the "trades unions" are somewhat expressing in England, and the "Eight-hour" party embryo here, that for centuries capital has been oppressing labor, and that the profits of all production, that labor has been tyrannized over and cheated and wronged, that capitalists could combine or wait while laborers were single and weak, and must work or starve, and that now at length, either under universal suffrage as in France and America, or under trades unions in Great Britain, they will force the capitalist class to redress the wrongs of centuries.

No one can know who has not studied the subject, what a vast confederation of labor is forming throughout Europe, underlying all government, and soon to extend itself over here. This great society of operatives and laborers do not much trouble themselves whether they have Emperor or President over them, Reformer or Tory, Democrat or Republican. What they are seeking for is not a political revolution, but an economical one. They do not care what party or candidates represent them, provided they can secure from the State or from capitalists such terms as will put them more on an equality with the latter. They have heard of the axioms of political economy long enough; of "wage-funds" and such other fallacies; of the impossibility of a strike; of permanently raising wages, or legislation giving them a greater share of profits in production, and they will have none of them. They have tested by practice that strikes can raise wages, as is the admitted result in England; that legislation can diminish hours of labor, or, in other words, add to wages, as is the experience here; and they believe, especially in France, that the Government can put them on a more even level with capitalists by lending its credit or by forcibly raising their wages, or by giving them a share in the profits of manufacture. In some shape or other, the operatives of Europe are determined to secure some greater share of the vast returns which are now yielded by modern industrial production. In England the trades union has almost become a governmental power, and will soon be felt in Parliament. It controls now immovable branches of business and considerable money force. It has already increased the returns of labor, and co-operation is doing still more in the same direction.

In France, the operatives, having the tremendous weapon of universal suffrage, are determined to secure their end by governmental means. They are putting in socialist, or, at least, anti-capitalist members. They expect legislative aid for their co-operative associations, and subventions of the State, and loans of credit for whatever branches of industry they may choose as most deserving. They have had enough of moderate Liberals, and want now the true "Reds," or at least the men in sympathy with the laboring classes.

Napoleon will soon perceive their objects. He understands this class, and in the great coming struggle in France and Europe between capital and labor, we may be sure that he will at once side with the masses. He has no sympathy with the bourgeoisie, nor they for him. The empire can rest as well on a confederation of labor, as on a representative assembly. The *ouvriers* have no objections to a Napoleon, provided the State become the patron of the workmen. The empire will do as well for them as a republic, if it loan its credit, or organize work, and make the laborers, in effect, capitalists. Such is the future which dimly shines out through the mists of these elections.

ANDREW JOHNSON'S IDEAS OF GEN. GRANT AND HIS ADMINISTRATION.

From the N. Y. Herald.

The despatch from Washington giving the matured ideas of ex-President Johnson on the character of General Grant and the prospects of his administration, is making a great sensation. It has been apparent for a long time past that Mr. Johnson had something on his mind concerning General Grant which would some day come out; and now that it is out, we are comforted by the thought that, while General Grant will survive, Mr. Johnson experiences a great relief. He has certainly spoken his mind very freely, and what may be said of his bad temper and bad taste, there are thousands of men throughout the country who will chuckle over his denunciations of the President as the very exposition that was wanted to wake up the administration and arouse the people, and to revive the drooping Democracy, and declare that this pointed and pungent conversation, in short, is a crown of glory to Andy Johnson.

He says he knows Grant thoroughly, has studied him, and is satisfied that he is the greatest force that was ever thrust upon a people; that the little fellow has nothing in him—not a single idea—no policy and no conception of the political situation; that he don't understand the philosophy of a single question, and is completely lost in trying to understand his position; that he is mendacious, cunning, and treacherous; that this little fellow Grant is a mere upstart and accident of the war; that he is a subject more for pity than contempt; that physically, mentally, and morally he is a nonentity; that his soul could revolve a thousand years in a hazelnut shell without knowing against his walls; that he has no policy, no standard, no goal, no faith; that he receives presents, and appoints the givers to his Cabinet; that such a man degrades the Presidential office; that he is a mere incident of the war; that his fittest place is that of assistant at a cross-roads horse race; that he is a liar and a coward (Heaven save the mark!), and that under his administration we are tending to despotism or anarchy, and to repudiation or a moneyed aristocracy of bondholders; and soon to the end of the chapter.

What is the cause of this ferocious philippic from Mr. Johnson? His provocation has been great. First, he appointed General Grant, under the Tenure-of-Office law, Secretary of War *ad interim*, in the place of Stanton. The object was to head off Stanton and Congress in Southern reconstruction, and to bring to the pinch, with the refusal of the Senate to concur in the suspension of Stanton, Grant, a law-abiding man, delivered his office back to Stanton. The correspondence between Grant and Johnson on this subject reveals two things very clearly—first, that Johnson expected Grant to back him up and head off Congress; and secondly, that Grant all the time was operating to support Congress and to head off Johnson. The quiet acquiescence of Grant in the action of the Senate reinstating Stanton, made a case of hostility between Johnson and Grant as decisive and remorseless as that between Hannibal and Rome. From that day, under Johnson's charges of treachery and falsehood, Grant, as far as possible, suspended all relations with Johnson, and more than once the General absented himself on a journey to avoid some occasion suggesting an official or social necessity for coming into contact with the President. This state of war was continued down to General Grant's inauguration, in which Mr. Johnson took no part; and notwithstanding General Grant's motto, "Let us have peace," there is no peace yet between him and Johnson. And has not Johnson cause enough for the wrath of Andrew Johnson, and yet he cannot afford to rest upon his laurels. His great achievements in the war have made him President; but upon his achievements as a practical statesman will depend the public judgment upon his administration; and he must do something positive, practical, and popular as President, or his administration will be a failure.

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CITY ORDINANCES.

COMMON COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA. CLERK'S OFFICE. PHILADELPHIA, June 28, 1869. In accordance with a Resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of Philadelphia, on Thursday, the twenty-fourth day of June, 1869, the annexed bill, entitled: "An Ordinance to Authorize a Loan for the Payment of Ground Rents and Mortgages," is hereby published for public information.

AN ORDINANCE.

To Authorize a Loan for the Payment of Ground Rents and Mortgages. Section 1. The Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia do ordain, That the Mayor of Philadelphia be and he is hereby authorized to borrow, not less than ten, nor more than twenty, hundred thousand dollars, on the credit of the City, from time to time, seven hundred thousand dollars for the payment of ground rents and mortgages held against the city, for which interest not to exceed the rate of six per cent, per annum shall be paid, half yearly, on the first days of January and July, at the office of the City Treasurer. The principal of said loan shall be payable and paid at the expiration of thirty years from the date of the loan, and not before, without the consent of the holders thereof; and the certificates therefor, in the usual form of the certificates of city loan, shall be signed and countersigned by the lenders may require, but not for any fractional part of one hundred dollars, or, if required, in the sum of five hundred or one thousand dollars; and it shall be certified that the loan therein mentioned and the interest thereof are payable free from all taxes.

Section 2. Whenever a loan shall be made by virtue thereof; there shall be, by force of this ordinance, annually appropriated out of the income of the Corporation, and from the sum raised by taxation, a sum sufficient to pay the interest on said certificates, and the further sum of three-tenths of one per centum on the par value of such certificates so issued, for the maintenance of the City of Philadelphia, and for the sinking fund, which fund and its accumulations are hereby especially pledged for the redemption and payment of said certificates.

RESOLUTION TO PUBLISH A LOAN BILL.

Resolved, That the Clerk of Common Council be authorized to publish in two daily newspapers of this city, daily for four weeks, the ordinance presented to the Common Council on Thursday, June 24, 1869, entitled "An Ordinance to Authorize a Loan for the Payment of Ground Rents and Mortgages." And the said Clerk, at the stated meeting of Council after the expiration of four weeks from the first day of said publication, shall present to this Council one of each of said newspapers for every day in which the same shall have been made. 6 35 24.

GOVERNMENT SALES.

RESOLUTION TO PUBLISH A LOAN BILL. Resolved, That the Clerk of Common Council be authorized to publish in two daily newspapers of this city, daily for four weeks, the ordinance presented to the Common Council on Thursday, June 24, 1869, entitled "An Ordinance to Authorize a Loan for the Payment of Ground Rents and Mortgages." And the said Clerk, at the stated meeting of Council after the expiration of four weeks from the first day of said publication, shall present to this Council one of each of said newspapers for every day in which the same shall have been made. 6 35 24.

DEPUTY QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

PHILADELPHIA, June 28, 1869. Will be sold at public auction, at SCHUYLKILL ARSENAL on WEDNESDAY, July 29, 1869, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M., under the direction of Captain William H. Gill, Military Storekeeper U. S. A., a large lot of Clothing, Canvas and Leather Equipment and Quartermaster's Stores, consisting in part of:— 34,250 Uniform Jackets, Vel. Ret. Corps, new. 47,740 yards Worsted Cloth, new. 67,740 yards Black Cloth, new. 1,064 1/2 yards Green Kersey, new. 3,000 Common Tents, linen, new. There will also be sold at the same time a large lot of Damaged Clothing and Equipage and Quartermaster's Stores, consisting in part of:— 3,700 Woolen Blankets. 25,420 Uniform Coats. 857 Sack Coats. 1,188 Forage Caps. 406 Shirts. 888 pairs Stockings. 4,036 pairs Trowsers. 1,100 Gait Sacks. 103 Chests of Clothing, new. 21,450 feet Galvanized Pipe, 19,925 feet Gas Pipe, assorted; and a variety of articles, embracing Chevrans, Drawers, Flng. Knives, Camp Kettles, Boils, Cans, Saddles, Tools, etc. etc. Terms cash—payable in United States currency. A property purchased must be removed within five days. Goods will be sold in lots to suit purchasers. Catalogues will be furnished on application at this office or at the office of Captain Schuyllkill Arsenal, or at the auction rooms of M. Thomas & Sons, Nos. 129 and 141 South Fourth street, or at the Deputy Quartermaster-General and Brevet Major-General, U. S. A. 6 29 61.

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